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BEACH COLLECTIONS

...relaxed afternoon

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Cover photography by Jamie Salomon





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Summer 2015

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Everything Goes with White



I HAVE A FRIEND who changes homes the way I change lipsticks simply because she has a redecorating itch. She emailed me a picture of the “milky beige” paint she was using in her living room.

In consideration of my own spaces I gave the color some thought, especially since “all the decorators were using it” in the manner of the latest eyelash trend. However, I did not feel a connection, and could not imagine living with the color for more than a month. I asked if she was using any white. She of course was.

Later I received a press release touting the Pantone color of the year, a berry shade that reminds me of my biology teacher’s lipstick. Again I did not connect to the color. I can relate to white, the literal blank canvas that allows my crazy freethinking thoughts to come together. If you make a mistake it is easy to fix and easy to test out new ideas, like a design laboratory for those who constantly want to create.

White can be both calming and explosive, depending on what direction you take and will always be an accepted approach. Cottages and white are a classic pair. They are warm, light-filled spaces that appreciate a good mix of things. The white cottage is the welcoming home that can crush the wanderlust out of the most fanatic traveler. *GW*



Jacqueline deMontravel
Editor

THE
DWELLER OF
A COTTAGE

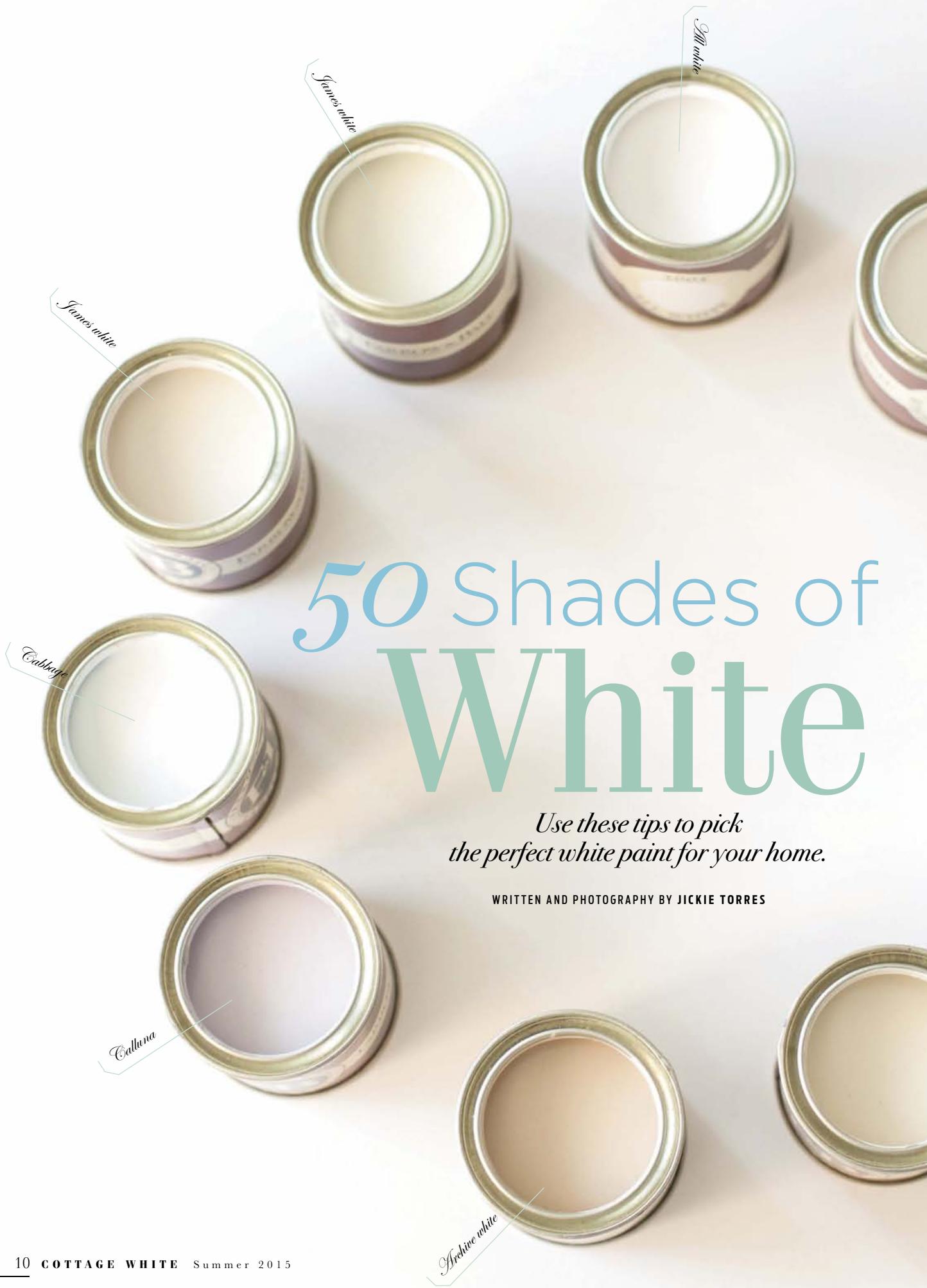
Painted white
sketches bunnies
in the later
afternoon light and
picks homegrown
berries for a pie
made from a recipe
by memory.

They snicker at the demolition
happening on the block because
their home is timeless. The design
is simple. A solid roof and a
flowerbed that has its own ideas
on what it will become. CW

Modest *means*

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL





50 Shades of White

*Use these tips to pick
the perfect white paint for your home.*

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JICKIE TORRES



ARE YOU SPINNING your color wheels trying to decide the perfect shade of white paint?

Anyone who's stood in front of the paint chip wall at the local home-improvement store can attest that white comes in a variety of hues, from creamy yellow to blush with pink. What many don't realize is that choosing the correct shade can make the difference between creating the perfect scheme or designing a room or project that just feels off. Farrow & Ball design director Sarah Cole says, "One of the most common mistakes people make is not finding the right sympathetic white for a color." Farrow & Ball's online color tools make choosing shades even easier. Whether it's for the walls, for the trim or for a DIY project, here are some guidelines to consider:

1. Like any color, white comes in shades that can be categorized as cool, warm and neutral.

2. With this in mind, decide the mood you are trying to evoke and select the appropriate shade of white to accomplish that. A creamy yellow-based white, such as Farrow & Ball's Lime White, will feel warm and cozy. A cool blue-tint white feels crisp, fresh and tranquil, and a pink- or gray-toned white can be soothing, soft and serene.

3. When choosing whites, pick a shade that is sympathetic to any other colors you have in your home. Adjacent paint colors will draw out tints from your white paint and vice versa. Either decide

“There’s no limit to the number of whites you can use in a room. “Try using three or four shades for a layered feel,” Cole says.



the color scheme as a whole up-front by matching paint chips for your trim, ceiling and wall colors or bring a sample of your accent color with you when you choose your white shade.

4. White is a natural light reflector so think about the nature of light in your rooms. The shade of white you choose will change from daylight into artificial light. North-facing rooms receive little light, so either play up dramatic accent colors and choose a brown white, or choose a yellow white such as New White that will spread as much light as possible. South-facing rooms do well with both cool and warm hues. East-facing rooms tend to receive bluer light, so complementing paint hues will work well. In west-facing rooms, true whites such as Wimborne will feel airy while grayer neutrals such as Slipper Satin will appear cooler earlier in the day and turn warmer later into the evening.

5. Because white's most salient quality is its ability to reflect light, choose your white based on the way you would like to alter the feeling of space in a room. Bright and cool whites will make the walls recede and the room feel larger. Stone- and warm-tone whites draw the walls in, making a room feel cozy and more intimate. CW

IT'S IN THE BAG

Save money and space when it comes to your DIY trash removal.

Are you tackling a weekend remodel that produces enough waste to overflow the garbage bin but not enough to haul in a dumpster? Then you need the Bagster. Available at most home-improvement stores, Bagster is an ultra-heavy duty rectangular tarp bag that acts as a mini dumpster for extra waste removal.

- **THE PREMISE IS SIMPLE:** Purchase the bag for \$29, take it home and fill it with demolition byproducts, remodeling trash and other items suitable for the garbage bin. Once you've filled its 3 cubic-yards of space or reached its 3,300-pound capacity, call for a pick up and for an average of \$180 you've rid yourself of a project's-worth of junk. Compared to renting a dumpster, which usually starts at about \$300 for 10 cubic yards, or making several trips back and forth to the dump, it's a budget- and labor-friendly way of cleaning up a remodel mess. The service is available in a growing number of cities. For locations, visit thebagster.com.

country white

lime white

new white

arcadia white

caillou

cottage white

styro
satin

All white

Jane white

wimborne white

STYMIES

Drawing a Blank

Easily fits in, versatile, practical and stylish—white is a welcomed addition to the home.

BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL



Peacock chair (cushion sold separately).
\$449.95. (800) 245-4595 OR
PIER1.COM.

Alder boxes, set of three,
\$107.50 PER SET. (800) 417-
8993 OR SHOPMADDIEG.COM.



Cake stand, \$72.
VISIT 125WEST.COM.



Laura Stoddart coasters, pack of 25,
\$11. (615) 736-2892 OR HESTERANDCOOK.COM.



Annabella 30"
diameter chandelier.

\$2,299. (864) 399-7885 OR
AUCOURANT-INTERIORS.COM.



Canvas laundry cart.

\$109.70. (800) 541-8929 OR
STEELECANVAS.COM.



Acapulco chair
by Paul Yacht.

\$435. (416) 479-0242 OR
INNITDESIGNS.COM.



Big chill fridge,
\$2,995.
(877) 842-3269 OR
BIGCHILL.COM.



Measuring spoons, \$17.95.
(703) 838-0355 OR REDBARNMERCANTILE.COM.



Magnolia paint.
\$38.95. (817) 616-3939 OR
MAISONBLANCHEPAINT.COM.



Provisions candle in salted caramel. \$21.
(866) PADDYWAX OR
PADDYWAX.COM.



Cottage road stools, set of 2.
\$129.99. (800) 523-3987 OR
SAUDER.COM.



Farmer's market towel.
\$18. (615) 736.2892 OR
HESTERANDCOOK.COM.



Eames chair with walnut dowel base by Herman Miller. \$428.
(877) 696-3342 OR OFFICEDESIGNS.COM.



Nesting stools.
\$52. (818) 830-9700 OR
THEBELLACOTTAGE.COM.



Shams. \$65 EACH.
(973) 507-9940 OR
BOLLANDBRANCH.COM.



Sweet cream body milk lotion. \$26.
(888) 773-9626 OR
FARMHOUSEFRESHGOODS.COM.



Prairie school desk.
\$299. (800) 933-9904 OR
LANDOFNOD.COM.



Scale. \$279. (844) 716-8511 OR KAUFMANN-MERCANTILE.COM.



Lyn forever throw.
\$150 WITH PERSONALIZED MESSAGE TAG.
(770) 598-7970 OR SWELLFOREVER.COM.



Color Combos.

A combination of wood, white and gray creates harmony in the hallway. The paneling was painted white to add lightness.

A modern Mercantile Home

A home's renovation becomes the ideal retreat and shop.

BY JONNA KIVILAHTI PHOTOGRAPHY BY KRISTA KELTANEN



Friendly Faces.

Portraits of the first owners of the farmhouse are arranged above a wooden sofa in the dining room. Linen and shades of white and gray continue in the space.



Cozy Comfort. Plush white sofas and wicker chairs balance each other in scale and create a warm and comfortable living area.





Small Spaces. Suvi likes to create changing vignettes atop corner tables and chests throughout the home to bring in different moods.





FROM ITS EXTERIOR, Suvi

Siljander and Kalle Jaakkola's home is the quintessential country house—complete with a whitewashed barn—but a step inside reveals a modern abode and lifestyle boutique.

The farm in Southern Finland has been in Kalle's family for decades and it was important to keep the inherent charm of its dairy farm past while also bringing the home into the 21st century for their family of four.

"I was a sworn bachelorette... never imagining I'd be a mother and live on a farm a couple of years on," Suvi says.

The couple capitalized on the large rooms—using cool neutrals to open up the space and furniture that fit the scale of the home, such as large bench seating in the kitchen.



“I do up my home according to my own vision—disregarding trends,” Suvi says.

The furnishings are a mix of those that have been in the family—such as the rocking chair and clock in the living room—and items Suvi picks up when also buying for the shop, such as the sofas and wicker chairs.

“Interiors are my biggest passion, which I don’t want to forget now that I run a shop. I make a point of visiting other interior shops as I travel around the country in search of unique finds for my home,” says Suvi.

The simple color palette never falls flat because the eye is always interested—whether it catches an antique wall telephone, vintage scale or French glass jars. The white décor is also livened up with white paneled walls, which add light, and antique wooden furniture, which adds warmth.

Black and gray frequently punctuate the spaces, such as the dining area—with a black





Breathing Room.

The dining room with French doors leads onto a large patio and sits between the kitchen and study.

Zebra Design.

Black and white striped accents—such as the rug, tote and blanket—give the study a modern twist.





Stylish Storage. The laundry room hides items in style—stowed away in wicker baskets or hidden behind white linen curtains.

A Call to the Past. This vintage phone is used as unique wall art, setting the style in a functional nook.



and white striped rug and chalkboard painting on the kitchen cabinetry—or the utility room’s monochromatic scheme.

“I do up my home according to my own vision—disregarding trends,” Suvi says. “The underlying motive is to create harmony by opting for soft shades. Our home changes constantly, which of course is partly due to the fact that we have our own interior shop in our backyard.”

The period doors and windows—which were integral in the renovation process—also give the home a sense of place.

Décor also pays homage to the home’s roots—such as portraits of the first owners of the farmhouse, which are arranged on a dining room wall.

Shabby Chic. The romantic, white-washed chair was a flea market find during a trip abroad.



“The underlying motive is to create harmony by opting for soft shades. Our home changes constantly, which of course is partly due to the fact that **we have our own interior shop in our backyard.**”



“I'd moved back to my home turf three years ago from Finland's capital Helsinki when I met Kalle. I never imagined I'd be a mother and live on a farm,” recounts Suvi. *aw*

White Retreat. The light-filled master bedroom is a haven to escape to at the end of the day. The black provides a nice contrast to the white walls and trimmings.



SUVI'S DÉCOR TIPS

1. Have confidence in your own style and a feeling behind what you create.
2. Color harmony is important, and looks different for different people.
3. Transform old pieces into something unique.
4. Contrasts, textures and materials can come in different styles, but still work together.
5. Think about different ways of adding light to a space in order to accentuate key elements.





Toddler Time. Suvi bought a bed for her three-year-old Samu from a friend. The room repeats the white theme found in other parts of the house.



Patio Perfect. The back patio carries on the white theme from inside. The clean lines of the tables and chairs work well with the wood deck.

Inspired Inheritance.

The home has a mix of old and new, such as a group of beautiful striped cushions and original furniture that came with the house on the glass veranda.



Shabby Chic Original



A coastal home embraces an exclusively white palette despite what trends dictate.

BY ANNICA OLMAÅ NORDSTROM PHOTOGRAPHY BY HELEN KARLSSON



Texture. Use different textures to add interest to a monochrome color palette. In Marita's living room, the frilly pillows and rough edges on the windowpane accent give the room flavor.

Timepiece Culture. Even if they don't work, vintage clocks are a great way to remind yourself and visitors to enjoy every moment you have. The rusted metal of this alarm clock also adds texture and interest to the motif.



WELL BEFORE SHABBY CHIC

romanticized homes with its cabbage roses and chippy furniture, Marita Tellden was decorating her Swedish home with the style.

Her father built the cottage in the 1950s and it was a summer retreat for her and her family until she permanently moved into the cottage in the 1970s. Her home maintains its classic origins, taking its design cues from nature and the surrounding jagged terrain that leads to the coastline. An expert of the area, Marita is familiar with every rock and cut in the landscape, and integrates her love of the land into her home's décor.

Marita's house has always been white, in spite of changing trends. "Even in the '70s when everyone's home was a little dark and drab with brown and orange spots, I had a home all in white," she says. Marita runs a hostel and interior décor shop Heestrand Interior with her daughter Camilla.



Gallery Backdrop. White makes a space look large and inviting, creating an ideal showcase for personal finds.

Mealtime. A simple white table, like an art gallery, allows the food to become a feature in itself.





White has always been the cornerstone of her store and design. She enjoys reading blogs that share her established aesthetic, and as a result, has contributed her own home to the online community. "I thought it seemed so fun so now I blog myself," she says.

Being ahead of the trend isn't always easy. When she was growing up, Marita's daughter questioned why they had had a fir Christmas tree decorated with white balls when everyone else had red ornaments. "Now it really feels like time has caught up," Marita says. Her white cottage is timeless, and will continue to be a picture of elegance despite what society deems is in style at the moment.

When Marita moved into her home, she began her design process by painting the interior and exterior exclusively in white. Instead of a spotless



“Marita’s white cottage is timeless, and will continue to be a picture of elegance despite what society deems is in style at the moment.”

A Touch of Green. Live plants add interest to any space. Against the white backdrop, a few new shoots offer an impactful statement and punch of color.



Bon appétit

Foreign Tongue. Words can become décor too. In her kitchen, Marita added several words in both French and Swedish to dictate the feel of the room.



Tick Tock. Clocks are statement pieces in any home. Marita displays a grandfather clock in the hall, which offers a stately look to its modest surroundings.

“Even in the ‘70s when everyone’s home was a little dark and drab in brown and orange spots, I had a home all in white.”



Simple Security. Clutter is often the enemy of serenity. Marita's bedroom is an enclave of serenity with its simple, sparse furnishings.

Old Words. Marita collects old photos and newspapers, which she preserves in books and displays around her home.



paint job that covers all surfaces, Marita allowed imperfections to show through to the original patina beneath. She salvaged some oak floors from an old manor house nearby, and painted the wood with durable white deck paint.

The style of Marita's home is a rustic mix of Swedish coast and French style. Because Marita goes on annual buying trips to Provence for her store, French décor features prominently in her own home. In the kitchen, she painted the iconic French phrase "Bon Appetit" onto





Outdoor Elegance. Marita's outside room is enclosed by sturdy glass panels so she can enjoy the sunlight even in the middle of winter.



Subtle Color. Muted colors don't destroy the serenity of the white palette. Instead, a few pale blue cans bring the sky inside.



one of the walls and paired wicker chairs with a French farm table in the dining room. The nearby sea is also a great influence in her design. She displays rocks, shells and driftwood she finds on her beach expeditions, as well as her coastal décor collections.

Marita enjoys saving items from the garbage, and her home is a gallery that showcases her various upcycled collections. She saves old newspapers and photos, which she assembles in binders. "It's so fun to be able to go back and look at them. I discover new things in the old clips," she says. She salvaged several doors from an old greenhouse to use in her décor, and has also gathered mortar from local quarries. With these pieces, Marita got her hands dirty and laid a stone floor around the pergola and a wall around the house. The earthy composition and light shades seamlessly blend with the white coastal look. "When I turned 60 I



Cottage White. Marita's love for white décor greets visitors as soon as they mount the drive. The clean white outside provides a glimpse into the serenity they'll experience when they step through the doors.



received a cement mixer as a gift from my children!" she says with a laugh.

Marita has incorporated white statues into the design both outside and inside. When she was visiting Italy, she found a heavy stone statue of the wine god Bacchus and dragged it all the way home. It now sits outside beside her grape vine that produces fruit in autumn.

Marita enjoys how her home promotes the serenity of maritime life. "Everyone greets everyone—there are about 100 residents in Heestrard," she says. She takes in life's simple pleasures with an early morning walk with her dog to the sea and finds inspiration from the natural environs outside her front door. *GW*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MARITA, VISIT
MYSIGAHEESTRAND.COM.

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 131.

Outside Rooms.
Several enclosed spaces bring the outdoors and indoors together in a perfect blend.



Wimsea

A waterfront Connecticut home shines with Victorian details.

BY JOANNA CLAY PHOTOGRAPHY AND STYLING BY JAMIE SALOMON

“PEOPLE OUT HERE—they have names for their houses,”
Susie Salomon says. “I named mine **Wimsea.**”

Susie’s Victorian home in Rowayton, Connecticut—named for its whimsy and seaside location—looks like it’s been there for ages. But the home is only about 20 years old, conceived by Susie herself.

“It really harkens back to an older time even though it’s a younger house,” she says.

She drove around Connecticut in her car, getting ideas for different Victorian details: “Curved windows, for instance.”

Connecticut-based Robertson & Landers architects made her dream a reality.

To Susie, it’s all about the details.

Looking at the house from the street, you can spot a custom textured window which illustrates Zephyrus, Greek god of the west wind. She splurged on moldings, detailed tile work and the fireplace. The latter is a dramatic piece in her living room, based on an architectural photo Susie found.

She designed a mosaic tile floor, which looks like ivy, for a room off the living room.

Since she wanted the home’s bones to be the focal point, she kept the furniture very neutral—shades of white, beige, grey, pale blue and yellow.



Treasure Hunter. Susie believes she found these tulip glasses at an antique store, a common place she likes to peruse to find new items.



Keep it Simple. Susie keeps much of the décor white, allowing the home's details and waterfront view to be the main points of interest.





When living on the water, it's important to consider light, which can cast a strange glow on warmer tones, she says.

When you keep a white home, "you have to have other kinds of visual interests. For me, it's collecting art," she says, noting paintings and sculptures scattered throughout the home.

In the kitchen, which she remodeled about three years ago, she installed Corian countertops that look like white marble and glass tiles for the backsplash. She chose the tiny tiles because they add texture but keep with the simple color scheme.

Upstairs, the master bedroom only has light blue and white linens—keeping the view as the focal point. The headboard and footboard (brass and painted iron) were found at a junkyard-type antique shop. They were rusty, but Susie saw potential.

She loves Victorians because they are "quirky, which is appealing and fascinating."

She added some elements just for fun, like the top of the banister post that hides gifts for her grandchildren.

A carpenter was so passionate about the work he did on her home that he brought his family to show them, she says.

"I never have the chance to do this kind of work," she says he told her. *CW*



Add Some Stripes. These purple accent pillows are a great way to incorporate some fun into a room with lots of neutral colors.

An Inside Look at Wimsea.

Susie designed her Victorian home in Rowayton on her own 20 years ago.



Calm. The simple décor in Susie's bedroom makes it a calm and relaxing retreat after a long day.



"People out here—they have names
for their houses," Susie Salomon says.
"I named mine Wimsea."



Secret Spots. A globe on top of one of the banister posts opens up to store goodies, a whimsical detail.



Blowing in the Wind.
Susie had the textured
glass window made
especially for her home.



Time for a Soak.
Susie loves high-
quality details, such as
French fixtures in the
master bathroom.
Would you like it
chaud or froid?

A Happy Mix

The tropical, cool style of Kailua, Hawaii, is reflected in the home of a young couple.

WRITTEN AND STYLED BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY BY OLIVER KONIG

Funky Finds. Ali gets unique pieces in unusual places despite the island's limited antique resources. An old oar, discovered in the basement of a previous residence, leans against the wall in the corner of the living room.



I ARRIVE IN THE KAILUA, HAWAII, home of Parker Moosman and Ali McMahon—one of those couples who knows about hip dog breeds and the correct way to tie a sarong.

Walking through the home is a blur, because there's one feature that steals all the attention: the view.

Parker quickly walks me through the house, back to the outdoor deck. There, with sights of the Pacific Ocean and the Mokulua Islands, my gaze shifts to Parker, feeding his rescue bird as if it were a dog. Only in Hawaii.

Not long after, Ali arrives home. She's a natural, no-frills woman, who looks beautiful without a dash of makeup. Always engaging and charismatic, she manages to steal the show from the wild bird sitting on her husband's shoulder.

As the operator of stores that sell everything from designer jewelry (a la Barneys New York) to classic Hawaiian board shorts, the couple knows design.

Shades of Blue. Color balances the look with a teal lamp and ultramarine pillows. The natural blue-green shades of rich oceanic life are used throughout the home.



TALKING FASHION SARAJANE HOARE

Woman in the Mirror Richard Avedon

Room Symmetry. A simple spherical lamp hangs in the dining room, accentuating the ceiling's height. The furniture is a soft neutral to avoid distracting visuals, which allows the wood floor to anchor the space.





As they talk about their home, they emulate its understated, cool aesthetic; Parker sports a gray shirt and shorts, and Ali dons a colorful maxi dress.

"We both have strong design opinions and we're lucky that they usually are in line with each other," says Ali. "It's really a mix of beach meets the city. We try to balance that feel."

The couple, who have lived in Washington and California, are constantly traveling the world—indulging their travel itch like college students on summer break. Collectibles from their adventures abroad are sprinkled throughout—such as wood and clay rosaries picked up in Colombia and Big Sur, or a picture frame crafted from driftwood Parker found during their Caribbean honeymoon.

"We really like to collect things when we travel to build an eclectic environment with memories," says Ali.

The home is edited but not overdone—comparable to the simplicity of a designer hotel room. The clean, white structure pairs well with their vibrant, modern beach belongings.

"I sometimes think it's a flaw, but when I decorate or design a room, I always want a white

"We really like to collect things when we travel, to **build** an eclectic environment with memories," says Ali.

Creative Corner. A coastal poster, ceramic owl and bright sideboard seamlessly come together in a clean space.





“The trick to your home is making it feel warm, not over designed, still a home,” says Ali.

Create Space. When location limits your choice in furniture and décor, the next best option is DIY. Parker builds a lot of the furniture for the home, and recommends thinking about which finishes and textures will complement the space.



background to work with and then I like to accessorize with color,” Ali says. “It’s just my thing.”

Their design reflects their personalities: approachable. When someone comes into their store, Parker says he treats them like guests in his home. He isn’t there just to make a sale; he wants to make them feel welcome, help them turn ideas into reality and answer questions. One time he sold a patron an item from the store’s décor which wasn’t for sale, but which he knew would be well taken care of in his customer’s home.

Similarly, they are always offering up a special experience at their home—offering guests fruits from their garden or a t-shirt, freshly screen-printed by Parker in the garage.

“The trick to your home is making it feel warm, not over-designed, still a home,” says Ali. “You want guests to feel comfortable when there and still be able to enjoy the design.”

Ali and Parker have created a welcoming abode—for friends of the bird kind and of the human kind. *CW*

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 131.

Feel Tall. "This space is wide open and has all those exposed ceiling beams. So there's no defined ceiling, which makes the space feel even bigger," Ali says. Blue accents and neutral tones create a unified scheme.





ALI & PARKER ON CREATING A HOME

- **Make your home yours.** You have to be happy in your own space, whatever that means.
- **Be inspired by your surroundings.** Right now, living in Hawaii, our colors are more beach-themed, with tans and blues. When we lived in Seattle, darker colors accented our home.
- **Pick a theme.** We carry Jonathan Adler in our stores, which we have in the house, mostly beach- and animal-inspired.
- **Add simple additions.** With a background in store visuals, windows and interiors, Ali has become a detailed person. She has added handmade frames, painted furniture and stacks of books to showcase decorative pieces.
- **Edit regularly.** Keep what you use, recycle what you don't and avoid chaotic displays.
- **Use white as a backdrop.** A white background allows you to focus on the items in a beautiful display.

Patio Paradise. The 500-square foot deck allows the couple to decorate minimally and effectively. Potted plants grace the periphery. In the center, an old wooden table sports curves that contrast with more modern chairs. The yellow metal mirrors the sunshine and creates a cheerful ambience. The key to keeping the space usable throughout the year is investing in humidity- and rain-resistant furniture. While plants thrive in the tropical environment, rust and mold can also reside there. Coating wood with a sealant helps stave off the detrimental effects of the elements.



KEEP IT Simple

*A home by the beach
marries function with
beauty for quintessential
California comfort.*

BY KAREN WILHELMSEN STYLED BY JACQUELINE deMONTRAVEL AND KIM WOODS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRET GUM





Vestibule of Vases.

Suzanne's small collection of blue and white chinoiserie vases are housed in the living room's white built-in shelves.

MANY WHO CRUISE the residential streets of Newport Beach, California, observe a stately home that stands out from the rest. “You notice it,” says interior designer Kim Woods. “It really has a presence on the street.”

Kim credits much of that to local architect Cynthia Childs, who laid down the groundwork that made her job much easier—a matter of filling in the details amidst beautiful paneling, built-ins and crown molding.

“The house to me stands on its own without any furniture,” she says. “It’s so pretty and so well done, with great finishes and materials.”

It’s hard to believe that a quaint three-bedroom, ranch-style home once stood on that plot of land. Homeowners Greg and Suzanne Lukosky tore it down about four years ago and decided to rebuild a home to fit the needs of their growing family.

“She has three kids and she’s busy,” Kim says of Suzanne. “The nice thing about this house is that there’s a place for everything. It’s easier for her to keep the clutter away and manage the day-to-day mess of life.”

Greg and Suzanne, both from Newport Beach, needed a space for entertaining. “They are a lot of fun and big-family people who love having the house for the kids. The kids’ friends can come over and there’s plenty of room,” says Kim, who made sure there was plenty of seating in the living and dining rooms. The Lukoskys even





“It’s a little bit beachy;
I’d call it
California casual.”





New... or Not? A custom "old" farm table was made to look worn and withstand years of use. In this home, comfort is everything, and these large wicker chairs are just that.





transformed the garage into a hangout for the kids—equipped with a carpeted floor, sofa, shuffleboard table and TV.

As visitors step onto the home's classic brick steps, they are greeted with a collection of sun hats that adorn a 100-pound iron hat rack. A stool and antique bucket keep the entryway practical and functional.

Greg and Suzanne envisioned traditional wood floors, wood details and clean white paneling—which are seen throughout the home.

"It's a little bit beachy; I'd call it California casual," Kim says. "I think the house is very traditional and timeless, and at moments a bit formal. It keeps the look casual and not too stuffy."

Kim had known Suzanne for a few years before designing this home and was able to gauge her style. "She loved talking to me about the design and was always showing me pictures she tore out of magazines," Kim says. "We really have similar tastes, so it was fun for me to work with her."

In the living room, Suzanne's main goal was finding the perfect sofas. Her requirements were that they be big, easy-to-clean and comfortable.

"She said, 'That's the first thing I want.' She was so excited to have these big, comfy sofas and have us all sit there at the same time," Kim says. "It really started with that."

Next came picking the linens, which had to be washable and casual. Suzanne wanted versatile slipcovers so that spills on the sofa wouldn't be worrisome.

By sticking to a neutral color palette in the room, Kim was able to play up the pillows using vibrant greens.

"With my clients, I really encourage switching out pillows or switching out little things throughout the season over the years. It feels like you've got a whole new room with just minimal effort," says Kim, who suggests doing this rather than reupholstering the sofas every few years, which is costly. "That's why we kept the color on the pillows, accents and plants."

Kim also incorporated a mix of materials into the room while sticking to a muted palette.

It's the Little Things. To highlight the beauty of the architecture, Kim kept the décor simple by adding hints of color using plants and accessories, as well as a stove with red knobs.





The distressed wood coffee table hides a lot, she says, because its dark shade is kid-friendly and defines the seating area. A custom jute rug atop the walnut floors combines earthy tones that complement the clean whites.

Kim credits the kitchen's design to architect Cynthia, who changed everything from its previous blueprint except the position of the sink.

"It's in the same spot because Suzanne really likes looking out into the street and front yard," says Kim.

She kept the cabinets white and picked out durable marble for the counters. A wrought-iron chandelier, red-knobbed stove and the tongue-and-groove ceiling and hardwood floor offer color, symmetry and sophistication.

Suzanne wanted the look of an "old farm table" for the dining room, which she envisioned being versatile enough for large gatherings, daily homework sessions or family dinners.

The custom table, made to look worn, is the same shade as the large wicker chairs. Keeping the décor simple, Kim added two mini chandeliers, pinstriped cushions and fresh flowers.

The Lukosky children's bedrooms were designed so they could grow into them. For the oldest





Simple Sophistication.

The room for the oldest daughter provides timeless comfort using serene blues, greens and whites.



Seeing Seashells. The distressed ivory dresser is covered in buttons and matches the seashell trinket boxes and shell-covered light fixture for a unique take on a beach-themed room.

daughter, the room's shabby chic appeal is timeless. A big bed, antique bamboo table and bamboo woven blinds won't need to be refreshed anytime soon for this preteen.

Draperies over the French doors provide privacy but can be drawn aside to reveal the view from the patio. "I love her room with the light blue walls with a little bit of gray in it so it's not too sweet," Kim says. The ceiling was kept white to keep its beautiful details visible.

In the youngest daughter's room, Kim went "girly" and used one of her favorite soft, peachy-pink paints on the walls. Suzanne found the dresser at a local store. She loved its distressed ivory paint and unique detailing of various buttons.

The shell light fixture continues the beach theme of the house but offers a fresh take on it. "Even though it's shells, if you redo the room in a couple years you can still work around it. It's traditional and classic enough," Kim says.

The little girl is now 7 years old, but many of the accessories in the room can remain when she gets older because of Kim's philosophy of investing in long-term pieces.

"Keep the big stuff—rugs, furniture, dressers, any big built-ins—timeless. I've had to talk a few

**“There’s a place for everything.
It’s easier to keep the clutter
away and manage
the day-to-day mess of life.”**



clients into doing that, but they have been happy in the end about it.”

This way, to redecorate a room, all it takes are new linens, small accessories and a fresh coat of paint for a whole different look that won’t dent your wallet.

In the master bathroom, a door leading out to the balcony and large windows let in the natural light. Simple white linens, unlined Roman shades that don’t block too much sun and recessed, built-in medicine cabinets provide a restful retreat that utilizes simplicity. “I don’t like a lot of clutter on top of the counter. I think it can be distracting,” Kim says. “The bathroom is really soothing and nice; it has a lot of space and natural light.”

Look closely at the details, from the brushed nickel faucets, industrial-style light fixtures, basket-weave tile and a shell mirror over the tub, and you’ll see hints of color in the sea of white.

“Function comes first. That’s what’s great about the house: it doesn’t need a lot. We could have added more accessories, but the great thing about this house is the detail. The more you put into it the more it distracts from the beauty.” *GW*

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 131.



INSIDER TRADING

Interior designer Kim Woods shares her expert tips to effortless style.

- **KNOW YOUR STYLE.** "I always encourage people who have never worked with a designer to buy decorating magazines and pull out things they like and don't like. If they're all over the map and pull disparate images, I'll ask them a lot of questions."
- **DON'T BE SO LITERAL.** While there are seashells sprinkled throughout several rooms in this beach house, Kim was careful not to overuse them. She suggests that while sticking to a theme "you have to be careful" and not follow the theme so firmly. "I don't like doing things that are too 'themey' or overdone. You can have moments of shells and moments of the blue and white, but I think it needs to be balanced."
- **HIGHLIGHT THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF YOUR HOME.** Kim is typically a fan of painted ceilings, but she kept the tongue-and-groove ceilings of this house white to show off the great woodwork.
- **CREATE ROOMS THAT STAND THE TEST OF TIME.** "I design little kids' rooms so that they can grow into them," Kim says. She recommends buying a good bed that will last as the child grows. "If you want to put Superman bedding on it, great. It's easier to change out the bedding and little things, maybe a bedside lamp, than it is to change dressers, beds, anything built-in or permanent fixtures."

Street Sense.

The exterior of the house has a presence on the street, and the beautiful architecture throughout called for simple furniture and minimal accessories.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE INTERIOR DESIGN SERVICES OF KIM WOODS, VISIT KIMWOODS.NET.
FOR MORE ON ARCHITECT CYNTHIA CHILDS, VISIT CCARCHITECT.COM.



Detail Oriented

A historic cottage ages well with the right attention to color, texture and accents.

BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL LEE

COZY AND CLUTTER have always been bedfellows, like at the ancient auntie's holiday party, where guests thump into a gridlock of furniture... and not because they've had one too many cocktails.

To achieve cozy and clean, designer Jennifer Palumbo recommends staying true to a home's origin while updating for a more modern feel.

In this historic Annisquam beach cottage located in the coastal village of Cape Ann, Massachusetts, white walls with colorful accents create a welcoming, radiant atmosphere—regardless of the weather's mood.



"We carefully updated this house to make it appealing and functional for a modern-day family while maintaining its character and understated cottage feel."





Summer linens. Blue, green and turquoise linens—juxtaposed with the white, wood-paneled walls—give the feeling of a forever summer getaway.



The sea inside.

The home's proximity to the sea is noted throughout the home in hues of aqua, sand and white, as well as with sea-inspired textiles and shells.





"The homeowners love the charm of old buildings, patina and imperfection," Jennifer says. "We carefully updated this house to make it appealing and functional for a modern-day family while maintaining its character and understated cottage feel."

Originally a quaint fishing cottage, the home showed its age in dated materials and a cramped layout. To maintain the home's character, Jennifer added to a room but matched the style of the original, weathered beadboard.

The design's great equalizer is the color white, which was used intentionally for two reasons.

First, white achieves the light and crisp feeling the homeowners requested. Second, the color white



Pops of color. Fresh sunflowers, a chartreuse serving tray and colorful abstract art provide the perfect pops of color in the white kitchen.



Secret space. Built-in cabinetry, including this nook by the kitchen, allows the homeowner to keep clutter hidden away and the home looking crisp and clean.

concealed the surface-level imperfections of the original, worn beadboard.

"It also neutralizes the architectural focal points," says Jennifer. "There is a lot of interest in this house with the wooden ceiling beams, etc. So the white grounds the other elements and enabled us to have a focused and succinct overall aesthetic."

Art, accessories and colorful additions make spaces pop and add interest and personality. "Art was critical on this project because of our mostly white palette," Jennifer says. "Our color strategy was to have a neutral backdrop with pops of fun and vibrant colors. The art added to the effect and gave the house energy."

Similar to the effect of art, painted pieces and walls—or a barn door—create intrigue. Colorful statement pieces like accessories and textiles add to the room's style. "We sourced neutrals for the duvet covers that allowed us



A warm kitchen. The wood-beamed ceilings and hardwood floors bring warmth to the white kitchen, which is highlighted by an island that appears bleached by the sea weather.

“We also wanted the whole house to feel casual and summery so we chose fabrics that create that feeling, such as cottons and linens.”





Unique additions. A repurposed barn door creates a fun and interesting entry point without too much effort.



Warming up white. Denim, black and white warm up the white, wood-paneled retreat.





Lighten up.

Interesting lighting—such as a star-shaped hanging light or a large nautical piece—lends visual interest without disturbing the cool colors of the home.

to really create impact with the pillows and color or pattern on the sheets,” Jennifer says. “Being focused and directed with color makes a bigger impact visually. We also wanted the whole house to feel casual and summery so we chose fabrics that create that feeling, such as cottons and linens.” *GW*

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 131.



Subtle Shades. Pale sea foam walls in the bedroom bring in color without overwhelming the room. This allows the white furniture and trim to stand out.



MAKE THE SPACE

Jennifer's simple additions to create space kept cottage clutter at bay.

- Built-in cabinetry—such as beds with storage drawers, nightstands and window seats—makes up for limited room and closet space (such as in the third-floor teen's room), and leaves a limited footprint.
- Design is all about editing. Sticking to a design concept in every space helps maintain focus and impact.
- Decorating with personal possessions keeps interiors from becoming sterile or soulless. However, it is important to exercise rationale when decorating with one's belongings. Add knickknacks and special objects intentionally, to avoid compromising a room's aesthetic!

MAKE THE CUT

Jennifer Palumbo's tips on how to choose the right pieces to create a design theme.

- Furnishings with clean lines were a way for us to make this historic cottage feel architecturally authentic, while at the same time stylizing a fresh vibe for this young family.
- Accessories were chosen based upon the client's preferences, the style of the home and its location. They are cohesive elements that can really bring a space from being a house to being a home.

Space in the Shade. Even the outdoor spaces parallel the home's summery vibe with fresh flowers, light wood and sea-inspired textiles.



TRADEWINDS

The Classics.

Period detailing seamlessly blends with classic accents such as beach finds, a coastal painting and rattan pieces.



A historic beach cottage, Both New and Old

A California designer brings a historic beach cottage back to its roots.

BY JOANNA CLAY PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREY CRAWFORD

JUST A COUPLE BLOCKS from the Pacific Ocean's edge sits designer Clark Collins's Laguna Beach home.

When Clark purchased the roughly 1,000 square-foot cottage in 2013, it wasn't the idyllic beach house it is now.

"It was in deplorable condition," Clark says.

But, he adds, the inherent charm lured him.

"It was like coming home," Clark says, who once designed for Hollywood royalty such as filmmakers Steven Spielberg and Rob Reiner.

It only took him four months to recreate its 1946 splendor, when it was likely built as a vacation home for families from Los Angeles.

He brought everything back to that period in time—rewiring original lighting, refinishing the oak floors and adding wood paneling on the walls, which had been removed.

"Every time you step further away from what it was originally, you lose the charm and character of these houses," he says.

He restored period windows and had the fireplace screen customized with the year the home was built.

Vintage Weaves. Wool bathing suits framed as art are a nostalgic nod to the home's history. "They're fun. They're colorful. They must've been scratchy," says designer Clark Collins.



INDS



An Eclectic Mix. Colorful throws, textiles, rugs and seascape paintings—as seen in the living room and master bedroom—keep the predominantly neutral color scheme from getting washed out.



Optimizing Space. Clark used built-ins, a customized breakfast nook and lots of kitchen cabinetry to make the most of his tiny home.



A Period Kitchen. In the 1940s, soapstone countertops—known for durability—and shaker cabinetry were common fixtures. Clark customized the countertop, adding a draining board.



The galley-style kitchen is his favorite room of the house.

“The kitchen and breakfast area really speak to the time period of the house—the soapstone counters, the simple shaker cabinets,” he says.

Soapstone is “really durable and dense and it’s not porous. You can put hot pots on it and it doesn’t crack. It’s a fantastic kitchen stone,” he says.

He added the detail of a drain board in the countertop, a feature seen in 20th-century homes. “It’s those tiny details that make the house feel old—it’s old but it’s new,” he says.

The tiny white cottage made Clark an expert at using space efficiently. The kitchen is a prime example.

Cabinets extend to the ceiling with glass paneling at the top to create the illusion of negative space. He added a breakfast nook with built-in bench seating that doubles as storage space—just lift your seat!

To make the house feel larger, he embraced a predominantly white color palette—using art, textiles and fixtures to spice up the blank spaces.

Clark’s love for found objects—which he says he learned from his collector father—is obvious with a walk around his home.

In the living room, a wall features framed wool swimsuits from the early 1900s—something the original homeowner might have worn—which he nabbed on eBay. “They’re fun. They’re colorful. They must’ve been scratchy as hell,” he says with a laugh.

Guest Bedroom.

White rooms help keep the home from appearing cramped and cluttered. Colorful textiles and unique art add interest. Antiques with local history honor the period of the home.





The guest bedroom features an antique, carved wooden bed with flowers hand-painted at one end, which Clark found on Craigslist and later discovered was made by a local's grandparent in the 1930s or 1940s.

The home also showcases items he's had for years, such his grandmother's quilt and a chest with "dragonfly" inscribed on it—both in the guest room.

"My mom actually gave me (that chest) and my kids beat it up," he said.

Clark draws the outdoors in—with blue textiles, a lamp that mimics sea glass in the master bedroom and collected Laguna plein air paintings.

"I think there's something really attractive about living near the sea and all the things that are involved with that," he says.

Coral and shells adorn the fireplace mantle, shelves and nightstands.

Antique dock cleats act as refrigerator door handles. Drawings from the 1800s of seaweed specimens hang in the kitchen, and a canoe oar—which he had sitting in his garage—acts as a stair railing off the living room.

He repurposed a boating flag into a pillow in the guest bedroom. The master bedroom has a chest that once lived on a ship.

"It's like a treasure hunt. You have to just keep looking," Clark says of the items he finds. "Buy things that you love. You buy them because you want to live with them." *GW*

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 131.



Al Fresco.

Clark capitalized on Californians' love for al fresco dining with a classic café table and chairs on the porch of his Laguna cottage.

“Every time you step **further away from what it was originally, you **lose the charm and character** of these houses,” he says.**



A Simple Façade.

Clark brought his 1940s cottage back to its roots by restoring the period windows and a Dutch door.

CLARK'S TIPS FOR MAXIMIZING A SMALL SPACE:

- Don't forget the vertical space. In the kitchen, have cabinets go all the way up to the ceiling.
- Use glass doors, clear or opaque, on upper cabinet doors. It might require more organization since you can see what's in there, but removing the visual obstruction makes the space feel larger.
- Bay windows are fantastic in kitchens. They bring in light and often provide space for an eat-in kitchen with bench seating, which can also serve as storage space.
- Pay attention to furniture scale and avoid bold, patterned fabrics.
- Think light and bright when it comes to paint. Use only one or two paint colors throughout the house. Painting the ceiling and walls the same color often gives the illusion that the ceiling is wider or higher than it is.
- Take advantage of every space in the home. Use a niche, additional closet or empty corner for built-in bookcases, desks or shelving units. Don't let any space go to waste.

A Hamptons Cottage





WETTLING ARCHITECTS HAMPTONS COTTAGE_3_COPYRIGHT WETTLING ARCHITECTS

A 1920s home is transformed into a modern beach retreat.

BY JOANNA CLAY PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID GILBERT

JUST A MILE from the beach, this East Hampton cottage has all the characteristics of a great summer house—it's manageable in size, modern and simple.

Architect Jack Wetting was asked to renovate the home a few years ago by a busy couple who wanted a getaway from city life.

Built in the 1920s or 1930s, he suspects it was a Sears kit home, where floor plans were purchased via catalog and built on-site.

He wanted to keep the inherent charm of a small-scale home, built back when East Hampton was a working-class neighborhood, not a wealthy enclave for Manhattanites. But he also wanted to bring it up to date and play to the property's strengths, which a mail-order design cannot do.

"The house didn't open up to (the property) in any way—it was a very introverted house," he says.

"[White] just becomes a nice neutral background for their life," Jack says.





A Clean Kitchen.

Jack kept the kitchen simple, with white cabinetry, gray pietra cardosa counters and a mahogany island.

Jack gutted the entire three-bedroom home, turning the kitchen, dining room and powder room into one huge space, with windows facing the backyard with a new pool.

Before, he says, "you never saw the backyard, which faces south. You never saw that great sunlight." Now, natural light floods the kitchen and the dining area, making it the focal point of the home.

Jack dropped the floor system 20 inches to create the illusion of higher ceilings and to bring it to the same level as the backyard, which is sloped. The previous owners hadn't thought much about the ceilings when the second story was added.

"When you went up the stairs you hit your head on the ceiling," Jack says with a laugh.

In the kitchen, he used a gray pietra cardosa (a type of schist) and a large piece of mahogany for the island. In the bathroom, he kept it simple with a matte-finish white marble.

The predominantly white look is a favorite of Jack's.

"We tend to keep things light and calm," he says. "What I want... is a super calm, beautiful oasis from the rest of the crazy life."



The Cottage. The East Hampton cottage, built most likely in the 1920s, is now up to date, thanks to Jack.

To keep the neutral palette visually interesting, he used texture in the different woods—on the flooring, on the walls, on the counters. He had the stairway custom painted with a dry brush finish and used horizontal wood siding inside the home—an interesting alternative to plain white walls. Metallic accents, such as gold-framed photos, give warmth.

"I try to do something so it doesn't look like a sheetrock white box," he says.

It also works out well for design changes. In the bathroom, for example, the homeowner can have accessories in blue for the summer and in dark red for winter. The white gives flexibility.

"It just becomes a nice neutral background for their life," Jack says.

With the constant renovations in the Hamptons, it's easy for homeowners to consider razing or expanding these small cottages, but Jack advises against it. He wants his clients to embrace the charm of a smaller home.

"I tend to talk my clients down in scale in the Hamptons," he says. "They think they need to build something as a statement piece. I think cottages really feel great."

He said the key change was just connecting the home to the beautiful nature that surrounds it.

"It feels good to come up to," he says of the home. *CW*



WETTLING ARCHITECTS HAMPTONS COTTAGE_13&18 COPYRIGHT WETTLING ARCHITECTS

Splash Zone. They chose a smaller pool—8 by 35 feet—than most of the pools you might see in the Hamptons, but it suited the scale of the home.



Summer House Classic

A home finds beauty in castoff items for a personalized look.

BY METTE LYKKEN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PERNILLE KAALUND

STYLING BY KAMMAN RIISING



ON A SUNDAY IN 1990, a fortuitous newspaper advertisement lured realtor Mette Lykken to **the coast.**

She and her husband were hooked on the thought of a Danish seaside cottage and met with the local real estate agent, who had found them a home right on the water.

When they saw the house, “We found it extremely charming and with endless potential,” Mette says.

Then, a year later, her neighbor’s home went up for sale. It was better insulated and had a modern façade.

Mette, no stranger to making fast deals, jumped at the offer and then had two summer houses, side-by-side. Mette and her

Ship Shape. On the fireplace stands a model of a fishing boat bought at an auction. Over the window hangs an upcycled shelf with hooks.

A photograph showing a view from a summer house towards the sea. On the left, a white door with glass panels is visible. In the foreground, there are two white wooden Adirondack chairs placed on a grassy slope. The middle ground shows tall grass and wildflowers. The background is a vast, choppy sea under a blue sky filled with large, white, fluffy clouds.

Beach Front. On the water side of the summer house lies the wild garden, which overlooks the Kattegat sea area of the Danish coast.





Room with a View. Before the renovation, the window facing the water was an unsightly aquarium window that did not fit the style of the home. After many discussions, Mette and Tony decided to construct frames on either side of the window, aligning it with the design of the rest of the house while also producing the effect of a large painting.



Pop of Color. The white walls, trim and furniture provide the perfect backdrop for the bright landscape painting.

Window White. The model ship came from an auction, while the glasses and ceramic flowerpot are heirlooms.

husband Tony Mortensen used the second purchase as their permanent home and converted the other into a “bungalow,” where visiting family and friends could stay.

“We were not quite sure what to do with the old wooden house. We had several plans for it, such as tearing it down and building a new one, and had gone ahead and had architectural plans toward this,” she says. “Selling it, though, was out of the question, as we reckoned we would come to regret it if we did.”

But then one day in 2003, Mette and her daughter Laura impulsively decided to move everything into the bungalow while Tony was on a business trip in Spain.

When he got home, the ladies poked their heads out of the window, laughing, “Hello! We live here now!”

Mette says she was ultimately lured back to the warm feeling of the cottage.

The bungalow, built in 1920, was in dire need of renovation when Mette and Tony bought it.

Passersby “called it the ‘Sleeping Beauty Castle’ because it was almost covered entirely by trees and climbing plants,” she says.

They roughly doubled the size of the house and covered the home



When they saw the house,
“We found it extremely
charming and with
endless potential,”
Mette says.



Touch of the Past. The couple bought the Swedish dining table at an auction, and the Tolix chairs at a flea market. The large white cupboard houses porcelain pieces collected at the local flea market.



A Hint of Gold. The wicker table was in the house when the family moved in, while the candleholders come from a flea market. Mette is crazy about the small lace tablecloth that she found, together with other fine linen, at a local flea market.



Caged Beauties. The small white dresser and the birdcage came from a bin of secondhand and throw-away materials. Mette and Tony purchased "The Blue Lady" painting at an auction.



in black wood. It was important to Mette to preserve the soul of the house instead of taking it down to the studs.

They ended up selling the modern summer house during the renovation.

Then the decorating began. Mette has always enjoyed finding furniture and knickknacks at flea markets, recycling centers, trash bins and secondhand shops.

Mette, who loves spending time in nature, was also lured by the wilderness that surrounds the bungalow.

"I hardly ever sit down when I am up here. I feel better running about—for instance trimming the roses while the others sit and enjoy their morning coffee," she says with a laugh. "If I drive by some beautiful flowers by the road, I



Be Our Guest. The annex accommodates an extra guest room and a dining room, serving as overflow space should relatives show up on short notice. The antique chair is from Tony's former country house.





A Personal Touch.

The guest room is simply decorated with French "Jielde" lamps on both sides of the bed. The Chinese bench was bought at an antique shop. Tony himself painted the painting.

Vintage Vignette. Mette is great at creating tableaus so various finds can come into their own. She freshened up a table and stool with a bit of paint. The wicker chair with original cushions came with the house, while the pink porcelain lamp came from a local thrift store. The small paintings are heirlooms.



normally stop the car, hop out with a shovel and paper bag and take them home with me."

The home is also a retreat for reading, disengaging and relaxing for Mette.

"I can shut myself into a bubble up here, which pops every time I plant myself into the seat of my car to leave for work on a Monday morning," she says. *CW*



“I can shut myself into a bubble up here, which pops every time I plant myself into the seat of my car to leave for work on a Monday morning,” she says.



Flea Market Protégé.

Laura has inherited her mother's passion for decorating and secondhand finds, and is often the one encouraging a detour to the thrift store. She decorates here with a bedspread from a flea market.



Classy Elegance. The dining table and chairs are borrowed from Mette's childhood home. The crystal chandelier is a present from Mette's friend, lending a sparkle of luxury to the room.

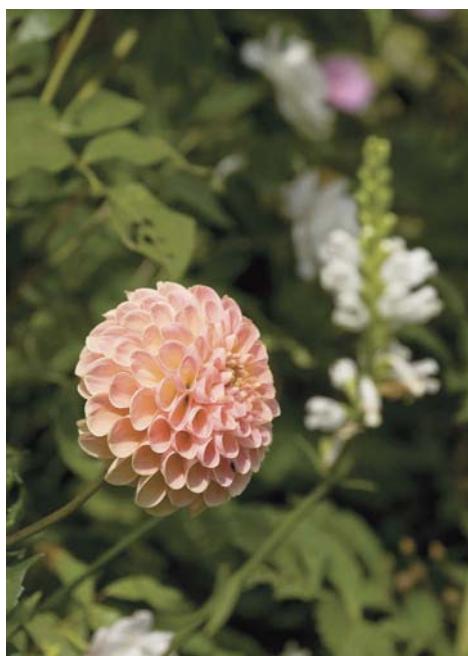


Outdoor Workspace. A little outdoor kitchen helps the family accommodate large parties and gatherings of family and friends, providing an extra work station for preparing food.





Cozy Nook. The old garden chairs are from the 1950s, and were second-hand finds.





Checkers & Stripes.

While multiple patterns sometimes clash, the patterns in this home don't feel overwhelming because they provide the only color and pattern in the room.

Blue Notes

This classic color duo can transform your entire home.

BY DIANA TUROWSKI
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK SCOTT

IF YOU'RE WANTING TO CREATE A SPACE

from scratch or breathe new life into an established room, nothing looks fresher than blue and white.

"When it comes to this classic combination, we are reminded of nature at its best," Gail Abbot writes in her new book *Blue and White Style*. Abbot shows that this serene, calming duo isn't just for the beach house. The examples in her book are from homes "as different as a white beach house near Cape Town, an ancient farmhouse on the south coast of England, a restored riad in Marrakech and an American-style white clapboard cottage." Any décor style can benefit from the cool, refreshing blue and white palette.

Abbot gives some simple tips to transform any room into a comfortable blue and white space:

Use blue accents in a predominantly white space.

First, wipe the slate clean by painting all walls, floors and trim white, and then add inspired blue accents to create your desired look. For example, create a "white open-plan room where checks and stripes provide the only decorative pattern." The white background gives the space an airy, fresh feel while allowing the focus to fall on the blue additions. Abbot also recommends reupholstering old chairs in patterned fabrics or bringing in blue pottery, drapes or throw pillows.



Bubble Bath. A single piece of furniture can add color to a room if you want to keep the walls and trim white.



Blue & White Style
by Gail Abbott.
CICO Books, \$29.95;
rylandpeters.com.





Stairway to Heaven.

In addition to blue trim, paint wood stairs blue. This will give interest to an area that typically goes unnoticed.

Transform your existing furniture.

A simple and inexpensive way to update almost any piece of furniture is to paint it. Abbot suggests “painting the outside of an old display cabinet with white, and then giving it a surprising interior of pure blue.” You could also paint blue accents onto a piece of white furniture, or even add washi tape for a quick fix you can change later.

Paint the woodwork.

For a more relaxed country feel, paint all woodwork a pale blue, but keep the walls a soft off-white with neutral accents. Avoid trying to match the shades too closely, Abbot says. Multiple shades of blue will keep this country look natural instead of forced.

Set the tone for a room with minimal patterns.

By using just one patterned fabric and keeping all other blues solid, Abbot can create a look that is both easy and elegant. “Sheer embroidered fabric makes a beautifully simple set of bed drapes that brings glamour to an otherwise minimal scheme,” she says. You can also add a pattern through a single upholstered chair, rug, pillow or even ceiling paint.

Abbot’s book is a feast for the eyes. Blue and white can be delicate and natural, bold and beautiful, inviting and homey. The possibilities are a breezy delight to explore. CW

Beach House Happy

Bring home the benefits of the beach.

BY DIANA TUROWSKI



Simple Finds.

Decorate on a dime by collecting shells and palm fronds on a coastline stroll. Durable, low-maintenance fabrics invite casual lounging after a long day at the beach.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO BE HAPPY

at a beach house,
especially when the key ingredients that lift our spirits
—such as color, surprise and nature—exist in
abundance in a nautical retreat.

Inside Options. White walls, ceilings and floorboards reflect sunlight, bringing beachy beauty indoors. Beach-ball red cabinetry and blue appliances add a vibrant energy that is balanced out by clean lines and minimal kitchen accoutrements.



DESIGN BY O'CONNOR CUSTOM BUILDERS PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANCESCO LAGNESE

Author Antonia Van Der Meer grew up in a seaside town, and explores the intersection between beach houses and happiness her book *Beach House Happy*.

Ideally, a beach house is a place where the demands of real life fade away. The author acknowledges that things can't always be swell at a beach house, as life's hassles never cease altogether, but she emphasizes the positive feelings and energy that emanate from a seaside escape. It's a place for happiness, peace and a connection to nature.

Beach House Happy tours beach houses and seascapes all over the world—from Massachusetts and Mexico to South Africa and Hawaii. The beach houses are as diverse in style as they are in location, yet they share a common thread: each provides a calming, carefree atmosphere, cultivated by a palpable tie to nature.



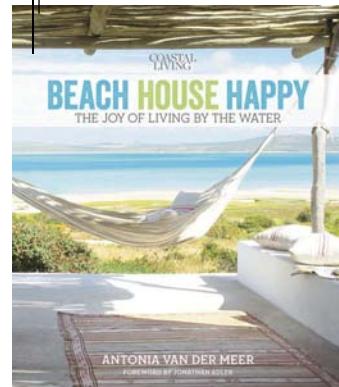
Have Some Fun. Playful paintings, retro furniture and patterned textiles pop, making this kitchen nook a cheery spot to start the day.





Bath Time. Don't forget the bathroom! Add natural wood and other seaside accessories for a nautical feel.

Beach House Happy by Antonia Van Der Meer. Oxmoore House, ©2015; oxmoorehouse.com.



Balance: It is widely accepted that a balanced life promotes happiness. The author suggests that the best beach houses are uncluttered and quiet, providing a place to create new memories, relax and reflect.

Color: Where better to have fun with color than in a beach house? Pair one or two colors with white to create the right atmosphere. For a stress-reducing vibe, try shades of blue. From the pale and navy blues of the sky to the gray and turquoise of the ocean, blue mimicks the designs of nature. If you want a bright, fun feel, add shades of red or orange that will pop on a white background.

History: It's not just the sea glass and sunshine that fill a beach house with light—it's the memories. Display items that will remind you of happy times, and you'll keep coming back for more.

Sharing: Giving and sharing make us happy, and beach houses are often designed for hospitality. You don't have to have space for a full guest bedroom—just make sure you have a few extra sleeping bags and sets of towels on hand so you can share your experience with others. Nothing will make distant relatives and long-lost friends come out of the woodwork faster than an invitation to a beach house. The happiness here comes from simplicity, not opulence. Recharge and relax with those you love.

Surprise: At the beach, surprise lurks around every corner. The sun, sand and surf are different each day. While the rooms in your house may tie together through an air of relaxation, create each room with its own quirks and character. Your guests will have as much fun exploring the house as the shore itself.

Nature: A beach house is the perfect atmosphere to be close to nature and its restorative properties. Find ways to bring the outside in. Install large windows that can open and let in the ocean breeze, or display a collection of shells you've found along the shoreline.

The homes in *Beach House Happy* are nothing short of inspiring. Even if you don't have your own beach house to renovate, just flipping through the pages will make you more relaxed. ☀

Why White?



WRITTEN AND STYLED BY
JACQUELINE deMONTRAVEL

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ERIC STRIFFLER

WHITE DOES NOT have to be drab. This liberal shade gets along well with all colors, which is one reason why we devoted an entire issue to it.

White can be as colorful as you like, and can be paired with as many hues as are on an artist's palette.

Reds, blues and even magenta seamlessly come together with shared traits.

Without a white base, such a compilation of colors could not thrive. CW

Resources

Shabby Chic Original

Page 34

Dining chairs: Ikea, (800) 434-4532 or ikea.com.

Toiletries: Côté Bastide, visit cotebastide.com.

A Happy Mix

Page 56

Bull bookends: Jonathan Adler, (800) 963-0891 or jonathanadler.com.

Surfer artwork: Andy Davis, visit mynameisandy.com.

Bird duvet, ceiling light: West Elm, (888) 922-4119 or westelm.com.

Kailua Hawaii USA jute bag: Olive Boutique, visit iheartolive.com.

Keep it Simple

Page 64

Architect: Cynthia Childs, (949) 718-3528 or ccarchitect.com.

Interior designer: Kim Woods, (949) 650-1441 or kimwoods.net.

Abacus Relax Chair in Distressed Black: NOIR, (310) 527-5501 or noirfurniturela.com.

Shell-covered light fixture: Currey & Company, (877) 768-6428 or curreycodealers.com.

Girl's room paint: Benjamin Moore Peach Parfait, (855) 724-6802 or benjaminoor.com.

Master bath floor tiles in Classic White Basket Weave: Walker Zanger, visit walkerzanger.com.

Detail Oriented

Page 76

Interior design: Jennifer Palumbo Interiors, (617) 332-1009 or jenniferpalumbo.com.

Carpentry and contracting: Monaco Johnson Group, (978) 745-0606 or www.Monaco-Johnson.com.

Paint colors: Benjamin Moore, (855) 724-6802 or benjaminoor.com.

- Barn doors: Benjamin Moore Retro Lime.

- Queen guest room: Benjamin Moore Mikonos, Vancouver Day.

- Twin guest room: Benjamin Moore Brittany Blue.

- Boys' twin room: Benjamin Moore Overcast.

Reclaimed vertical grain heart pine floor: Saulnier Hardwood Floors LLC, (781) 595-7232 or www.saulniersfloors.com.

Wolf range, oven, hood, fridge, wine cooler: Sub-Zero and Wolf, (800) 222-7820 or sub-zero-wolf.com.

Dishwasher: Miele, (866) 694-5851 or mieleusa.com.

A Historic Beach Cottage, both New and Old

Page 90

Fireplace screen: Santa Barbara Forge and Iron, (805) 965-7111 or sbforge.com.

Paint: Dunn Edwards Cottage White, (888) 337-2468 or dunnedwards.com.

Deep fireclay sink: ROHL Home, (800) 777-9762 or rohlhome.com.

Kitchen faucet: Strom Plumbing, (800) 843-2722 or signofthecrab.com.

Master bed: Tuvalu, (877) 888-2584 or tuvaluhome.com.

Linens, lamps in master bedroom: Hollywood at Home, (310) 273-1438 or hollywoodathome.com.

Side tables in master bedroom: Michael S. Smith, (310) 315-3018 or michaelssmithinc.com.

Rug in master bedroom: Rug Resources, (888) 504-3335 or rugsresources.com.

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